



H&H

The Handel & Haydn Society
Christopher Hogwood, Artistic Director
One Hundred Eighty-First Season, 1995-96

FIRST NIGHT

Sunday, December 31, 1995 at 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Blackman Auditorium, Northeastern University, Boston

John Finney, Conductor

In dulci júbilo, BUXWV 52

Pamela Murray, soprano; Pamela Dellal, alto
Donald Wilkinson, bass

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Psallite unigenito

Vom Himmel hoch (*three settings*)

Michael Praetorius
(ca. 1571-1621)

Salve Jesu, BUXWV 94

Roberta Anderson, Gail Abbey, sopranos

Dietrich Buxtehude

In natali Domini

En natus est Emanuel

Singt, ihr lieben Christen all

Michael Praetorius

Willkommen, süßer Bräutigam

Pamela Murray, Dale Edwards, sopranos
Herman Hildebrand, bass

Vincent Lübeck
(1654-1740)

Ehr sei Gott in der Höh allein

Johann Hermann Schein
(1586-1630)

These performances are sponsored by WCRB, 102.5 FM,
and are partially underwritten by Boston Private Bank and
Trust Company. Special thanks to Northeastern University.



The Handel & Haydn Society is supported in part by grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts. This support enables H&H to offer not only several concert series, but also an educational outreach program in over forty public schools throughout Massachusetts, and public concerts, like tonight's, that bring H&H's music to wider audiences.

VOCAL TEXTS (IN TRANSLATION)

In dulci jubilo (Buxtehude)

Let us sing and be happy with sweet rejoicing!
Our heart's joy lies in the manger
And shines as brightly as the sun in his
mother's lap.
You are first and last.

O tiny Jesus, how I long for you:
Console my spirit, O best boy,
Through all your good works, O prince of glory!
Take me along with you!

O the love of the Father,
O the gentleness of the new-born!
We might all have been lost by our sins
But you have instead given us the joys of heaven.
Would that we were there!

Where are the joys? No place more than there,
There the angels sing new songs
And the bells ring in the court of the King.
Would that we were there!

Psallite unigenito (Praetorius)

Sing unto the Christchild,
The only-begotten Son of God,
The Redeemer, the Lord,
The little child lying in the manger.
A tiny child lies in the manger;
All the dear angels serve the little child
And sing sweetly to him.

Vom Himmel hoch

From heaven high I come to you,
I bring you tidings good and new,
Good tidings of great joy I bring,
Thereof will I both say and sing.

Praise God above on his high throne,
Who giveth us his only Son,
The angel hosts rejoice in bliss
To chant a glad New Year like this.

Salve Jesu (Buxtehude)

Hail, Jesus, only-begotten Son of the Father,
Hail, milk-and-honey,
Hail, bridegroom of my soul.
My heart I give to you alone.
Whatever you desire,
Behold, I will leave it for you here in this stable;
Hail, bridegroom of my soul.

O, the power of your love, great Jesus.
Whose tongue can express it,
Whose mind can comprehend it?

Why are you wrapped in swaddling clothes,
little Jesus?

Why does the fierce cold
Pervade your tender limbs?

Why are you freezing,
You who can hurl the fearful lightning,
Who can terrify the vaults of heaven
With the crash of thunder?

O sweet, o sublime love,
O strong love,
Which carries me,
Which draws me,
Which seizes me!

Jesus, I long for you,
In such a love as yours I dissolve myself.

In natali Domini (Praetorius)

At the birth of the Lord, all mortals cry out:
Where is a child born for us?
In Bethlehem a little child is born for us,
Wrapped in a little cloth,
Jesus is his name.

En natus est Emanuel

Behold, Emmanuel, the Lord, is born,
As was foretold by Gabriel,
The Lord, who is our Savior.

Today the light breaks forth,
From the Virgin Mary,
The Lord, who is our Savior.

Singt, ihr lieben Christen all

Sing, all beloved Christians,
Let the great news be heard,
Peace and goodwill be unto you,
The child is born to the virgin Mary.
Today God is born a human being,
As was foretold by Gabriel.
Today he has appeared,
The holy Christ in Israel
Born of the virgin Mary:
Great is his glorious name, Immanuel,
As was foretold by the angel Gabriel.

Willkommen, süßer Bräutigam (Lübeck)

Welcome, sweetest Bridegroom,
King of Glory,
Welcome, Jesus, Lamb of God,
your praises would I sing.
I would praise and thank you from my heart
my whole life long,
That you deigned to be born a human being
for us, who were lost.

O great event, O night of wonders,
the like of which has never been seen,
You have brought forth the Savior,
who has triumphed over all,
You have brought the man of strength,
who can command fire and clouds,
Before whom the heavens tremble
and the mountains quake.

O dear child, o sweet boy,
of most gracious demeanor,
My brother, whom I prefer
above all the treasures of the earth,
Come, dearest one, into my heart,
come quickly, leave your manger,
Come, come, I would speedily prepare
a place for you.

Say then, Bridegroom of my heart,
my hope, my joy, my life,
My noble branch from David's stem,
what shall I give you?
O, take from me body, soul, and spirit;
take my entire being;
I would give myself completely
to remain true to you forever.

Praise and thanks I sing to you,
Lord Jesus Christ,
That you became my brother
and conquered the world.
Help me to sing your praises continually
in this time of grace,
That I may hereafter sing your praises
eternally in heaven.

Ehr sei Gott in der Höh allein (Schein)

Chorus of Angels:

Glory be to God on high,
on earth there shall now be peace.

Chorus of Shepherds:

God help us, what is this song?
what a sweet sound it has.

Listen, this song praises the glory of God,
and promises peace to us.

O God, it is the angels
who are singing us this little song.

Chorus of Angels:

and goodwill towards men,
for Christ is born for all of you.

Chorus of Shepherds:

Behold, they sing on,
o, how lovely it sounds.

What are they singing about a little child,
born for all of us?

O God, what glad tidings!

Now all hate is wiped out,
The hate which our sins made before God,
for this child is born for us.

Both choruses:

Thanks be to you, God, on your highest throne,
that you have sent us your Son.
Praise, power, strength, and glory
be unto you forever.

H&H ENSEMBLE

Soprano

Gail Abbey
Roberta Anderson
Dale Edwards
Pamela Murray

Alto

Susan Byers
Pamela Dellal
Eleanor Kelley

Tenor

Martin Kelly
Mark Sprinkle
Noel Vazquez

Bass

Herman Hildebrand
Mark McSweeney
Donald Wilkinson

Jane Starkman, violin
Scott Metcalfe, violin
Phoebe Carrai, violincello
James David Christie, organ

JOHN FINNEY

John Finney is widely praised for his organ and harpsichord playing, as well as for his work directing several Boston-area ensembles. He has performed solo keyboard recitals throughout the United States and in Europe, and has appeared as organist and harpsichordist with H&H, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, the Bach Ensemble, Ensemble Abendmusik, and the Smithsonian Chamber Players. John Finney also has an active conducting career; he has been H&H Chorusmaster since 1990, and was named Associate Conductor in 1992, directing the H&H Chamber Series. He also serves as Director of the University Chorale at Boston College, Director of Music for the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church in Wellesley, and Director of the Heritage Chorale in Framingham. Mr. Finney has recorded for Denon, Decca, and Nonesuch. He is on the faculty of the Boston Conservatory, and also teaches at the Academy for Early Music in Bressanone, Italy.

THE HANDEL & HAYDN SOCIETY

The Handel & Haydn Society is a premier chorus and period orchestra under the artistic direction of renowned conductor Christopher Hogwood. H&H is an American leader in historically-informed performance, performing music on the instruments and with the styles of the period in which it was composed. Founded in Boston in 1815, H&H is the oldest continuously-performing arts organization in the country, with a long tradition of musical excellence. In the nineteenth century, the Society gave the American premieres of several Baroque and Classical works, including Handel's *Messiah* (1818), which H&H has performed every year since 1854. In recent years, H&H has achieved widespread acclaim through recordings on the London Records/L'Oiseau-Lyre label, national broadcasts, and performances across North America. In Boston, H&H offers both a Symphony Series at Symphony Hall and a Chamber Series at both Jordan Hall at New England Conservatory and at Sanders Theatre in Cambridge.

~ H&H CONCERTS COMING UP ~

Symphony Series at Symphony Hall
Christopher Hogwood conducting

BAROQUE ARTISTRY

Concertos and Cantatas by Bach,
Handel, and Vivaldi

Jan. 12 at 8 p.m.; Jan. 14 at 3 p.m.

CLASSICAL MASTERS

Mozart: Clarinet Concerto; Haydn:
Symphony No. 103, "Drumroll"
Feb. 2 at 8 p.m.; Feb. 4 at 3 p.m.

GLUCK: *ORFEO ED EURIDICE*

An all new, fully-staged production of
Gluck's groundbreaking opera with the
H&H chorus and orchestra and the
Mark Morris Dance Group
April 12, 13, and 14 at the Wang Center

*Chamber Series at Jordan Hall
& Sanders Theatre*
John Finney directing

THE MENDELSSOHN

Fanny Mendelssohn: Piano Quartet; Felix
and Fanny Mendelssohn: *Lieder*, duets
Feb. 23, 8 p.m.(JH); Feb. 25, 3 p.m.(ST)

HAYDN AND GLUCK

Haydn: *Missa Brevis* in F;
Gluck: Trio Sonatas
Mar. 24, 3 p.m.(ST); Mar. 29, 8 p.m.(JH)

J.S. BACH: THE GREAT MOTETS

Featuring some of Bach's most virtuosic
and challenging choral works.
Jun. 2, 3 p.m.(ST); Jun. 7, 8 p.m.(JH)

*The H&H Chamber Series is
sponsored by WCRB, 102.5 FM*

For more information, call the H&H Box Office at (617) 266-3605.